

A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

### A Letter from the Mayor and Council

Members of the Rockville Community:

Rockville’s new Town Center continues to make major strides toward finally becoming a reality. As the insert of this issue of *Rockville Reports* clearly illustrates, there is a plan in place to transform downtown Rockville into a vibrant mix of retail, residential, office, restaurant and entertainment uses, as set forth in the Town Center Master Plan adopted in 2001. Town Center will be home to the new Rockville Regional Library that is so badly needed in our community. And all of this will develop around a town square that will give downtown Rockville the identity it has lacked for decades.

What we are hoping to bring back to downtown Rockville is something we had before the Urban Renewal projects of the 1960s and ’70s took it away—our town center. Back then, we had a real downtown that was pedestrian friendly. It invited walking, browsing and shopping. We would see our neighbors at Vinson’s Drug Store and other businesses. That is what this restoration and revitalization of our downtown is all about.

The draft design guidelines first presented in mid-February have generated excitement among those who have seen them. But we share the concerns that some have expressed about the strip shopping center on North Washington Street that contains 23 retail stores including a grocery store. We do not want these businesses to disappear from Town Center.

The success of this redevelopment effort depends upon creating an inviting, pedestrian-friendly environment with two wide streets, one of which must go through this existing strip center. One of the three necessary public parking garages will be located on the shopping center site.

Some have asked why not leave this strip mall standing while building other parts of Town Center. That approach would extend this project by two to three years. This time extension and the challenges associated with phased construction would escalate the public infrastructure costs—your costs—by \$8-10 million. Even putting the additional costs aside, many of the small business owners told us that moving into a partially finished area, while the rest of the block was in active construction, would create a difficult—if not impossible—environment in which to conduct business.

The transition plan that has been developed for the tenants includes professional realtor assistance, reimbursement of relocation costs and other expenses, such as rent—covering the difference between what the merchants will be paying after they have relocated and they are paying today. We also are offering to move tenants twice if they temporarily find space and then decide to return the new Town Center.

And yes, the new Town Center will include a grocery store. Federal Realty has offered the current grocery store owners the right of first refusal on this space and we hope that they choose to remain part of Rockville. In the interim, we are planning a free shuttle service to take residents accustomed to walking to the current center to other stores within Rockville.

We believe a strip shopping center is not a town center. When this project is completed, we will have recaptured what once was ours—and the heart of Rockville will beat once again.

We will continue to keep you updated about Town Center through *Rockville Reports*, the special Town Center section on the City’s Web site ([www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us)) and through broadcasts on The Rockville Channel of meetings concerning Town Center. We join in your enthusiasm and we share your optimism on the bright future for Rockville’s Town Center.

Larry Giammo, Mayor

Bob Dorsey, Councilmember

John Hall, Jr. Councilmember

Susan Hoffmann, Councilmember

Anne Robbins, Councilmember



Pictured (from left to right: Emily Howell, Jennifer Howell and Marianne Mullan) are three members of the Rockville Civic Ballet, which performed a selection during this year’s Arts Sampler from its spring production that is scheduled for April 5 and 6, under the direction and choreography of Claudia Mangan.

## City Artists Dazzle at Sampler

Hundreds of City arts supporters turned out for the 2003 Rockville Arts Sampler at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre on March 9, despite the first days of warm temperatures that graced the Washington area after an intense pounding of snowstorms over the previous few weeks.

To the crowd’s pleasure, the performing artists did not disappoint.

Members of the Rockville Little Theatre, National Chamber Orchestra Summer String Institutes, Victorian Lyric Opera Company, Rockville Singers, Rockville Civic Ballet and the Rockville Dixie Rascals performed, played, danced, acted and sang. City Councilmembers John Hall Jr. and Bob Dorsey presented the annual three Arts Awards to unsuspecting recipients (who are re-

vealed on page 2).

In addition to the performers, art from the Darkroom Team of Rockville Arts Place and the Rockville Art League was on display in the Theatre lobby, as well as video highlights from the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference. Together the Sampler represented the diverse community of visual, performing and literary artists in the City. [RR](#)

## City Adopts New Campaign Policy

Mayor and Council Candidates to Have Separate Televised Debates

Incumbents and challenging candidates will have more equal access during Rockville election campaigns through a new Campaign Policy adopted by the Mayor and Council in February.

Clearly stating campaign policies, and giving challenging candidates additional access to the election process, were objectives the Mayor and Council set to achieve this term.

The proposed guidelines have been the subject of numerous public meetings and work sessions over the past six months. Although a key element of the revised policy was to provide for up to three debates televised on The Rockville Channel (cable channel 11), the adopted guidelines included one significant amendment that was added shortly before consid-

eration by the Mayor and Council. That amendment provides for separate debates between the mayoral candidates and the candidates for the four Council seats.

A complete rundown of the new policy, which will be in effect for the campaign leading to the November 2003 elections, is available on [www.ci.rockville.md.us/mc/mc2.htm](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us/mc/mc2.htm). [RR](#)

## April’s Best of Rockville

### April 9

#### Cherry Blossom Van Tour.

The hallmark of Washington’s spring – cherry blossoms – should peak April 8-14, so this van/walking tour of the Tidal Basin is right on time. Croydon Creek Nature Center 9:30 a.m. Ages 18-older. \$20 RES/\$23 NR. Info: 240-314-8770.

### April 19

#### Family Kite Fest & Spring

Eggstravaganza. Puppet show, giveaways, kite sales, kite making, free fly area, face painting, egg hunts. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr. Free for residents. Rain date: April 21. Info: 240-314-8600.



### April 27

#### Rockville Science Day.

Solar-powered cars, rocket launches, live snakes and much more. 12 noon-5 p.m. Physical Education Building, Montgomery College’s Rockville Campus. Free. Sheila Marshall: 301-279-0625. [www.rocknet.org/community/science](http://www.rocknet.org/community/science).

MAYOR & COUNCIL  
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Rockville, Maryland  
20850-2364

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Ken Lechter	Sue Pierce
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Greg Manougian	John Tyner
Michael Matthew	

**Arts Programs Supervisor,**  
**FOCUS Editor**  
Betty Wisda

**Arts Programs Specialist**  
Kathleen Moran

**Focus on the Arts** is the official Arts Newsletter for the City of Rockville Cultural Arts Commission and the Arts Division of the Department of Recreation and Parks, and is published quarterly. Deadline for news is one month before publishing. Call 240-314-8116.

# ‘ColorPlay’ Set for Summer Dedication

Welcoming all who visit The Village Green at Falls Grove is the newly installed, 20-foot “ColorPlay” statue of stainless steel figures presenting a colored glass sphere toward the sky.

The sculpture, designed by artist Stephen Canneto, was installed in January, less than a year after the Mayor and Council awarded the commission.

“‘ColorPlay’s’ stainless steel figures evoke the timeless traditions of people joining together across generations,” Canneto said. “They work and play in cooperative spirit while meeting the challenges of the moment. The colored-glass and stainless steel sphere symbolize the challenges that life presents.”

Betty Wisda, Arts Program Supervisor for the City, is excited about

the way the statue fits with its welcoming surroundings.

“When approaching this public art from the Shady Grove Road entrance,” she said, “you see a picturesque setting of the sculpture, mature Norway Spruce trees, and the newly constructed community center.”

Wisda also acknowledged how enthused the City is with Canneto’s work.

“The artist nomination committee is pleased with the scale, concept and execution of the sculpture,” she said. “It is exactly what they had expected from the artist’s proposal.

A dedication ceremony will be held in summer, depending on weather conditions. Check [www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us) for the date, which will be announced in the near future. ■



Sunlight illuminates the colored glass sphere by day and a light display will shine on the sphere by night, defining the Falls Grove statue ‘ColorPlay’ at all times. The area surrounding ‘ColorPlay’ will be landscaped in time for its dedication this summer.

## Entry Call for F. Scott Literary Conference

It’s that time again! The eighth annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference is calling for short story entries in two categories: **High School and Open.**

First-place winners of each contest will win a cash prize and will read his or her short story at this fall’s conference in Rockville. Historically the conference has garnered major forces in the literary community, such as last year’s honoree, John Updike.

- Details for the **High School** category:*
- Open to any high school student who resides or attends school in Montgomery County
  - Entries must be unpublished
  - Entries must be between 1,000-3,000 words, typed and double-spaced
  - First-prize is \$250
  - Three runners-up: \$100 each
  - No entry fee

- Details for the **Open** category:*
- Open to any resident of Maryland, Virginia or Washington, D.C.
  - Entries must be unpublished
  - Entries must be less than 3,000 words, typed in 10- or 12-point size and double-spaced
  - First prize: \$1,000
  - Three runners-up: \$200 each
  - Entry fee is \$25 per entry (unless member of F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, Inc.)

All entries must be postmarked by July 11, 2003. Send submissions (including a cover page with contestant’s name; name should not appear on story pages) to F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference Contest, c/o 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, Md. 20850. For more information, call 301-309-9461. ■



## Ballet Performs On April 5, 6

The Rockville Civic Ballet will perform “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” and “Planets” on Saturday, April 5, and Sunday, April 6, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, under the direction of Claudia Mangan.

The Saturday performance begins at 7:30 p.m., while the Sunday performance starts at 2:30 p.m.

An excellent family opportunity, tickets are \$7 for general admission, and \$5 for children under 12 years, and seniors 60 and over.

Assigned seats are available by calling the Theatre Box Office at 240-314-8690. ■



The 2003 Rockville Arts Awards winners, pictured from left to right, are Wootton High School junior Amy Renner (winner of the ‘Rockville High School Student Achievement in the Performing, Visual or Literary Arts’); Seymour Greene, father of the late Jackie Fischer (winner of the ‘Lifetime Achievement for Work in the Performing, Visual or Literary Arts’); and Nancy and Tim Howell (winners of the ‘Volunteer Support to the Arts in Rockville’).

## Four Honored for Commitment to Arts

Four talented, dedicated and passionate people were honored with the 2003 Rockville Arts Awards.

**Rockville High School Student Achievement in the Performing, Visual or Literary Arts Awardee: Amy Renner**

The youngest of the honorees, Renner has already compiled a resume appropriate for someone twice her age. Councilmember Bob Dorsey presented the Wootton High School junior with the award.

Some might recognize Amy for her leading role of Sandy in Wootton’s sold out show, “Grease,” last fall. Or perhaps some might recognize her as secretary of Wootton’s drama club. Or as a member of the Thespian Society. Or a first-place winner for high school women in musical theatre from the National Association of

Teachers of Singing. Or for being the assistant producer for “Fiddler on the Roof” with Bound for Broadway, a youth theater company in Montgomery County. Or as a participant in the 2002 summer dinner theater production of “South Pacific” through Montgomery College.

For those who have not had the chance to experience Renner’s talents, there will surely be ample opportunity, as she truly is one of Rockville’s aspiring stars.

**Lifetime Achievement for Work in the Performing, Visual or Literary Arts Awardee: Jackie Fischer**

Councilmember Dorsey’s presentation was full of emotion, as this year’s much-loved recipient, Fischer, recently lost a battle with cancer.

Accepting the award on Jackie’s behalf was her father, Seymour Greene, whose brief, yet powerful,

“I’m so proud to be Jackie’s father.”

— Seymour Greene,  
Father of Jackie Fischer

acceptance speech indicated the impact that she had on not just the Rockville arts community, but everyone with whom she interacted.

Jackie’s father remarked how passionate his daughter was about the arts, as well as her career in public service at a senior facility, where, he said, she brought joy and hope every day.

“I’m so proud to be Jackie’s father,” Seymour said.

A member of Rockville Little Theatre for 10 years, Jackie served on the board of directors and was the assistant director of many shows.

“Jackie was an ideal person to

have in a volunteer organization,” Councilmember Dorsey said. “She was inclusive, helpful, kind and fun. Her patience made new members want to come back and work on another show.”

Jackie was an integral part of Rockville Little Theatre’s fabric and made a permanent mark on the organization and in the hearts of its members.

“Nancy and Tim’s total commitment to step up for any task makes them outstanding volunteers.”

— Councilmember John F. Hall, Jr.

**Volunteer Support to the Arts in Rockville Awardees: Nancy and Tim Howell**

Volunteers are the backbone of virtually every arts organization, and without the Howells, the Rockville Civic Ballet would have a huge void to fill.

Councilmember John Hall, Jr. presented this year’s award to the couple, who have dedicated countless hours to ensure the success of the Rockville Civic Ballet. With three children as active members of the organization – Emily and Jennifer, who performed in this year’s Arts Sampler – and sister Katie, Nancy and Tim have given their time unselfishly to every member of the ballet company.

“Nancy and Tim’s total commitment to step up for any task makes them outstanding volunteers,” Hall said. “They are perfect examples of what volunteerism is all about.”

The couple dedicated many weekend hours to help build the newly constructed “Nutcracker” set, and also wear many hats throughout the year during productions. ■



# Para Ud.

## Limpieza de la Cañería Principal de Agua

Entre el 7 de abril y el 3 de julio, de 10 de la noche a 6 de la mañana, se llevará a cabo un programa de lavado a presión para extraer los sedimentos finos acumulados en el sistema de agua de toda la Ciudad. El proceso se iniciará en la sección oeste de la Ciudad y continuará hacia el este. A medida que avance el proceso de limpieza, los residentes podrán observar una decoloración temporaria del agua; por lo tanto, se aconseja no lavar ropa durante ese período. El tratamiento de limpieza no afecta la salud de la población. Lo invitamos a ver una descripción específica mediante mapas en la Internet ([www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us)) o mirar el canal TRC-11 de televisión. Para más información, también se puede llamar al número 240- 314-8566.

— Translated by  
Victoria Imas-Duchovny

# In Brief

## Police Academy

The Rockville City Police will host a Citizen Police Academy, March 26-May 14. The Academy will familiarize residents with City Police each Wednesday from 6:30-9 p.m.

CALL 240-314-8836 FOR INFO

## State of the City

Mayor Larry Giammo will present the State of the City Address on Sunday, May 4, at 1 p.m., at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. The Mayor will address current and future issues regarding the City, as well as progress that has been made. The public is invited. The address will be rebroadcast by The Rockville Channel.

CALL 240-314-8280 FOR INFO

## Watermain Flushing

A citywide flushing program to remove accumulated fine sediments from the City water system will begin April 7 and continue through July 3, between 10 p.m.-6 a.m. The flushing process will start in the western portion of the City, then move east. Please visit [www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us) to see a map-specific description. As flushing takes place in your neighborhood, residents may see a temporary discoloration of water, so washing of clothes is discouraged.

CALL 240-314-8566 FOR INFO

## Dog Park Planning

The Recreation and Parks Department and the 13-member R-DOG (Rockville's Dog Owner's Group) will be the major force in determining location, fees, rules and regulations and design for a new dog park.

CALL 240-314-8704 FOR INFO

## Spring Cleaning

On April 19, the City of Rockville will give residents (non-commercial) a chance to dump large, unwanted items and hazardous materials. From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Twinbrook Recreation Center, residents can dispose of items up to 50 pounds each. This service is in addition to the regular trash pickups.

CALL 240-314-8335 FOR INFO



ATTORNEY GENERAL VISITS SENIOR CENTER: **Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr. will visit the Rockville Senior Center on April 30 to discuss safety issues that concern senior consumers. The event begins at 1 p.m. Call 240-314-8810 for more information.**



ROCKVILLE DAY IN ANNAPOLIS: **Members of the Mayor and Council, along with several City employees, represented Rockville during the annual trip to Annapolis in February. Members of the General Assembly and their staffs were presented information on the Town Center project and the City's endorsement of speed cameras. State Legislators in attendance, included Delegate Luiz Simmons (middle), pictured with Mayor Larry Giammo (right) and Councilmember John Hall, Jr.**

## Nature Raffles

Starting April 10, the Croydon Creek Nature Center will be selling raffle tickets to fund the building of birds of prey cages. The drawing is on Sunday, May 4, at the Nature Center's 1st Anniversary Celebration. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Prizes include: binoculars, bird feeders, nature birthday party and more.

CALL 240-314-8770 FOR INFO

## Young Artists Sought

This year is the 200th anniversary of Rockville's first map, and the City wants second graders to help celebrate. The "Rockville History Poster Display" is open to any second grade student in Rockville elementary schools. One poster per classroom will be displayed at City Hall during the

month of May. The deadline is April 4. Contact the City's Historic Preservation Office for contest rules and details.

CALL 240-314-8230 FOR INFO

## Every 15 Minutes

Each year, the City of Rockville coordinates a powerful program called "Every 15 Minutes," involving local high schools, City Police officers, other emergency personnel, parents, teachers, businesses and other organizations to instill the dangers of drinking and driving. This year's program will be held for Rockville High School at its temporary location at 919 University Blvd. West in Silver Spring, on April 9-10. Diane Wilkins, Victim Advocate, is coordinating the event.

CALL 240-314-8917 FOR INFO

## CITY

**19 Kite Fest and Spring Eggstravaganza.** 10 a.m.-12 noon. Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr. Free for Rockville residents. Rain date: April 21. Info: 240-314-8600.

**22 Town Center Action Team Meeting.** 7 p.m. Room 105 of the Red Brick Courthouse. 240-314-8211.

**26 Off-Leash Dog Testing.** 10 a.m. Middle Lane parking lot. Tests if dogs can be walked without a leash. Call 240-314-8930 to register in advance.

**27 Rockville Science Day.** 12 noon-5 p.m. Physical Education Building, Montgomery College's Rockville campus. Info: Sheila Marshall, e-mail: [shemarsh@erols.com](mailto:shemarsh@erols.com); phone: 301-279-0625; fax: 301-279-0626.

**27 Pike's Peek 10K.** Shady Grove Metro to White Flint on Rockville Pike. 8 a.m. 301-460-8888. [www.mcrc.org](http://www.mcrc.org).

## ARTS

**Mar.30-April 29 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** presents Susanne McDougall Carmack, "Claiming Space," mixed media paintings; and Michelle Rogers, "The Past Recaptured/Le Temps Retrouve," photography. Opening reception March 30, from 1-4 p.m. FREE.

**Mar.30 Glenview Mansion Concert Series:** Celtic Trio (Maggie Sansone, Laura Byrne and Bridget Hight). FREE. Call 240-314-8682.

**5,6 Rockville Civic Ballet,** "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and "Planets." 7:30 p.m. (on April 5); 2:30 p.m. (on April 6). F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets \$7, \$5. Box office: 240-314-8690.

# april

# calendar of events

RES = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

**11,12 National Chamber Orchestra.** Featured guest Brian Ganz. Mozart & Chopin selections. 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets \$37, \$27, \$17. Box office: 240-314-8690.

**13 Rockville Concert Band.** 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. FREE. No tickets required.

**25,26 Home School Talents,** "Flying Colors." 6:30 p.m. (on April 25); 5 p.m. (April 26). F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets \$7.50, \$6.50. Box office: 240-314-8690.

**25,26 Home School Talents,** "Yankee Doodle." 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Tickets \$7.50, \$6.50. Box office: 240-314-8690.

## NATURE CENTER

All programs at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Phone: 240-314-8770.

**1 Ladybug Wreath.** 2:30-3:30 p.m. Ages 4 and over. \$7 RES/\$8 NR.

**2 Butterflies.** 2-3 p.m. Ages 4 and over. \$3 RES./\$4 NR.

**3 Bunnies.** 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 3-6. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

**9 Cherry Blossom Van Tour.** 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Adults. \$20 RES./\$23 NR.

**10 Salamanders.** 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-6. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

**11 Egg Dyeing, Naturally.** 7-8:30 p.m. All ages. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

**12 Science of Roadkill.** 8-10 a.m. Ages 12 and over. \$7 RES/\$8 NR.

**17 Tiny Tot Walk: Who Lives in That Egg?** 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 18-24 months. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

**17 Tyke Hike: Who Lives in That Egg?** 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-5. \$2 RES/\$3 NR.

**22 Build-a-Beaver.** 4-5:30 p.m. Ages 7-12. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

**24 Meet the Wiggles in Your Yard: Worms.** 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-6. \$3 RES/\$6 NR.

**26 Fiddleheads and Fern Fronds.** 11 a.m.-12 noon. Ages 10 and over. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

**29 April Showers.** 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 3-6. \$3 RES/\$4 NR.

## SENIORS

All programs at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800.

**2 April Birthday and Anniversary Party.** 1:30 p.m. Free. Entertainment by Senior Center Hand Chime Choir.

**3 Food and Medication Connection.** 1-2:30 p.m.

**8 Safeguarding Your Hips.** 1-2 p.m.

**8 Leisure Arts and Crafts Preview.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Register by April 1.

**8,10 Watercolor Techniques** – Experimental. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$16 MEM/\$20 NM. Register by April 1.

**9 Dietary Supplements.** 1-2 p.m.

**10 Azaleas Inspire the Cooking.** 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$20 MEM/\$25 NM. Register by March 27.

**10 Art in the Afternoon at Rockville Arts Place.** 1-3 p.m. Free. Register by April 1.

**10 Hearing and Hearing Loss.** 10 a.m.-12 noon.

**15 Intergenerational Day** – For the Birds. 10 a.m. \$15 MEM/\$19 NM. Register by April 2.

**15 History Lesson** – Civil War. 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Register by April 8.

**16 Spring Break** – Intergenerational Program. 1-2:30 p.m. Free.

**17 Diabetic Retinopathy.** 1-2 p.m.

**23-May 24 Bridge: Addressing Your Problems II.** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$27 MEM/\$34 NM. Register by April 9.

**30 Glass Fusing.** 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$27 MEM/\$34 NM. Register by April 21.

**30 Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr.** speaks. 1-2 p.m.

## TEENS

For more information, call 240-314-8634.

**1 Early Release Day Trip.** Made By You Pottery. 12:15-4 p.m. \$20 RES/\$25 NR.

**14 Day of Fun in Frederick.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. \$20 MEM/\$24 NM.

**15 Paintball.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$25 MEM/\$28 NM.

**16 Movie and Bowling.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$15 MEM/\$18 NM.

## BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings at City Hall unless noted otherwise.

**5 Board of Appeals.** 9:30 a.m.

**8 Human Services Advisory Commission.** 7:30 p.m. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center.

**8 Rockville Seniors, Inc.** 1 p.m. Senior Center Board Room.

**9 Planning Comm.** 7 p.m.

**9 Cultural Arts Comm.** 7:30 p.m.

**16 Rockville Housing Enterprises** (Housing Authority). 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Board Room, 14 Moore Dr.

**17 Rockville Sister City Corporation.** 7:30 p.m.

**17 Historic District Comm.** 7 p.m.

**21 Sign Review Board.** 4 p.m.

**23 Planning Comm.** 7 p.m.

**23 Human Rights Comm.** 7:30 p.m.

**24 Senior Citizens Comm.** 10 a.m. Senior Center.

**24 Recreation and Park Advisory Board.** 7 p.m. Water Treatment Plant.



# Pedestrians Gain Control At King Farm Intersection

The City of Rockville has put into operation its only “pedestrian activated” traffic signal at the intersection of Redland Boulevard and Thompson Dairy Way (near the King Farm Village Center) in the King Farm Development.

Almost all jurisdictions install traffic signals based upon traffic counts, and the signals are timed to help maintain the flow of vehicles. However, this signal is designed chiefly to help pedestrians and will be regulated by the need of pedestrians to cross.

The signal flashes yellow on Redland and red on Thompson Dairy Way 24 hours a day. When a pedestrian pushes the button on a post (at either side of Redland), the signal will turn red at all four approaches to allow a safe crossing for pedestrians. After activating the signal function, pedestrians will have 24 seconds to cross the intersection before the sig-

nal returns to its flashing phases for vehicles.

Emad Elshafei, a Civil Engineer with Rockville’s Traffic and Transportation Division, said King Farm Associates, LLC paid approximately \$70,000 to have the signal installed. The signal went into operation on Tuesday, Feb. 25. The City will pay the cost of future operation and maintenance of the signal.

Putting in a special signal of this type would be rare for any jurisdiction, said Elshafei, but he said it demonstrates the commitment Rockville’s Mayor and Council and King Farm Associates have made to pedestrian safety.

“We wanted to create a pedestrian-orientated environment in King Farm, and to do that, we have to make sure this environment is safe for pedestrians,” said Mark Gregg, President of King Farm Associates. “This signal is important



The newly installed signal at Redland Boulevard and Thompson Dairy Way gives pedestrians 24 seconds to cross the street.

to help people south of Redland Boulevard get back and forth from the Village Center.”

Rockville has two other signals—one near Wootton High School and another on South Stonestreet Avenue near the Rockville Metro Station—that give pedestrians priority by turning all four sides of signals

to red when activated. The difference between these signals and the one at King Farm is that these signals also go through all red-yellow-green cycles to regulate traffic.

Rockville intends to put a pedestrian-activated signal similar to the one in King Farm on Baltimore Road near Rockville High School in the future. **RR**

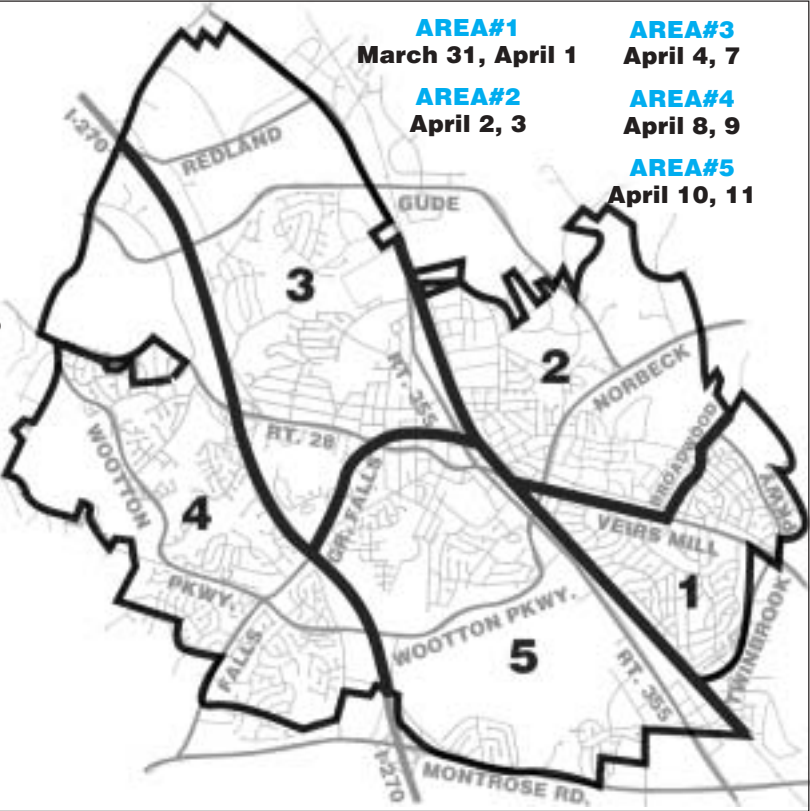
## Spring Leaf Collection

City of Rockville crews will service each area twice. Use the map and schedule to determine the dates for your area.

**DO:** Rake leaves into the gutter, or immediately adjacent to the pavement where no curb or gutter exists, by 7 a.m. on the last scheduled collection day. Remove limbs, rocks and other heavy objects.

**DO NOT:** Use any plastic bags. The City’s recycling program will collect leaves and grass that are in biodegradable bags or easily emptied containers.

For more information, log on to the City’s Web site [www.ci.rockville.md.us/dept/leaf.htm](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us/dept/leaf.htm), or call 240-314-8570. **RR**



## Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-7 p.m. on Mondays (unless otherwise noted) when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. Call the City Clerk’s Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmembers scheduled for April are:

- April 14 John Hall, Jr.
- April 21 Susan Hoffmann
- April 28 Anne Robbins



Councilmember Susan Hoffmann

## Mayor & Council Meetings

All General and Work Sessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel, and are available on streaming video: [www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us).

- April 7 (Mon.) Worksession (discussion with Human Services Advisory Commission), 7 p.m.
- April 14 (Mon.) General Session (City Manager’s Budget Presentation), 7:30 p.m.
- April 21 (Mon.) Public Hearing (Street closings at Choke Cherry Road; Publicly accessible art; Historic designations), 7:30 p.m.
- April 28 (Mon.) General Session, Public Hearing (Budget #1), 7:30 p.m.

## Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Animal Matters Board (one)
- Commission on Environment (new group)
- Historic District Commission (one)
- Landlord/Tenant (one for tenant)
- Retirement Board (one)


For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.

## Rockville’s FY04 Budget Schedule

- April 14 - Presentation to the Mayor and Council and introduction of the budget and utility rates.
- April 28 - Budget public hearing #1.
- May 5 - Budget public hearing #2.
- May 13 - Budget worksession #1.
- May 20 - Budget worksession #2.
- May 28 - Budget worksession #3.
- June 9 - Budget and utility rates adoptions by the Mayor & Council.

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL APRIL PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE						
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
6 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 am	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
7 am	Permit Process	Permit Process	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Permit Process	Permit Process
7:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
8 am	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
8:30 am	Mayor & Council ▼	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▼
9 am	▼	Town Center Dev. Guidelines	Cultural Diversity	Mayor & Council Round Table	Cultural Diversity	Mayor & Council Round Table	▼
10 am	▼	▼	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▼
10:30 am	▼	▼	Permit Process	Permit Process	Permit Process	Permit Process	▼
11 am	Cityline	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Cityline
11:30 am	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
12:30 pm	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline
1 pm until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Planning Commission ▼
4 pm	Town Center Dev. Guidelines	▼	Cultural Diversity ▼	Cultural Diversity ▼	▼	Mayor & Council Round Table	▼
4:30 pm	▼	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	▼	▼	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▼	Permit Process
5 pm	▼	Cultural Diversity	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Mayor & Council Round Table	Mayor & Council Round Table	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Mayor & Council Round Table
5:30 pm	▼	▼	Permit Process	▼	▼	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	▼
6 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
6:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
7 pm	Planning Commission ▼	Permit Process	Mayor & Council Round Table	Planning Commission ▼	Mayor & Council Round Table	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18
7:30 pm	▼	Mayor & Council ▼	▼	▼	▼	Mayor & Council ▼	Mayor & Council Round Table
8 pm	▼	▼	Cultural Diversity	▼	Cultural Diversity	▼	▼
8:30 pm	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	Cultural Diversity
9 pm	▼	▼	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	▼	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	▼	▼
9:30 pm	▼	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline	▼	Cityline
10 pm	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report
10:30 pm	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review
11 pm	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)	Present Budget-begins Apr. 18	Caregivers (Adult Homeless)
11:30 pm	Smooth Beginnings	Permit Process	Nature Center	Smooth Beginnings	Nature Center	Permit Process	Smooth Beginnings

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meeting minutes  
and agendas plus other  
Citywide updates.



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**Councilmembers**  
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JOHN F. HALL, JR.,  
SUSAN R. HOFFMANN,  
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